

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 13, p. 10 with the following:

At step 304, the access point 202 receives the discover packet and examines its IP header. If the origin MAC address is not in the database 203, the access point 202 ignores the packet, thereby denying access to the network, and the procedure ends. If the origin MAC address is in the database 203, the access point 202 modifies the discover packet at step 306 by inserting data into an optional field of the packet to indicate that the packet originated from a wireless client. The access point 202 then transmits the modified discover packet to the DHCP server 204. At step 308, the DHCP server 204 responds to the discover packet with an ACK. The access point 202 relays the ACK to the client 214. At the client 214, the TCP/IP module 222 receives the ACK and responds to it by broadcasting a DHCP request packet via the NIC 224 and communicator 226 at step 310. At step 312, the access point 202 receives the request packet and checks to see whether the packet came from an authorized MAC address. If it did not, then the access point denies access, and the process ends. If it did, then at step 314 the access point 202 modifies the request packet in the same way it modified the discover packet (back at step 306) and sends the modified packet to the DHCP server ~~304~~ 204.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 6, p. 11 with the following:

At step 316 (FIG. 5), the DHCP server ~~304~~ 204 assigns an IP address to the client 214. The IP address assigned preferably has a short lease time. One method that may be used to determine the lease time is that it should be approximately twice the time that it is expected to take for the client 214 to set up an IPSEC tunnel to the access point 202. For example, if it is expected to take one minute to set up the IPSEC tunnel, then the lease time could be around two minutes. At step 318, the DHCP server ~~304~~ 204 generates a DHCP offer packet containing the assigned IP address. The DHCP server also inserts the IP address and MAC address of the access point 202 into an optional field of the offer

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packet. The DHCP server 204 sends the offer packet to the wireless client 214 via the access point 202.